## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A surgical saw blade for cutting bone comprising:

a holder body having a plurality of recesses extending between opposite lateral sides of the holder body;

a row of teeth having a plurality of teeth and being arranged at one end of the holder body;

each tooth being <u>tetrahedral and</u> formed with a first tooth flank, a second tooth flank, and a third tooth flank in the vicinity of the tip of a tooth; and

a channel being formed between adjacent teeth via which the cuttings of material are adapted to be carried away to behind the row of teeth in relation to the tooth tip;

wherein:

the first tooth flanks of every other tooth in the row of teeth lie in a plane;

the channel extends behind a tooth base of the adjacent teeth and is connected with at least one of the recesses; and

said at least one recess being a holder body channel extending along a row of teeth.

- 2. (Cancelled).
- 3. (Currently amended) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim [[2]] 1, wherein the channel extends behind the tooth base at a height which lies within a range of between 20% and 60% of the height of the tooth above the tooth base.

Serial No.: 10/615,311

-3-

- 4. (Original) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the channel is in the form of a trough.
- 5. (Original) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the channel is formed between opposed, non-parallel tooth flanks of adjacent teeth.
- 6. (Cancelled).
- 7. (Currently amended) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim [[6]] 1, wherein said at least one holder body channel is arranged behind a tooth base.
- 8. (Cancelled).
- 9. (Currently amended) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim [[6]] 1, wherein, in the direction towards the row of teeth, said at least one holder body channel is bounded by said row of teeth.
- 10. (Currently amended) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim [[6]] 1, wherein a respective holder body channel is formed on a lower face and on an upper face of the holder body.
- 11. (Original) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the two holder body channels are substantially parallel to one another.
- 12. (Currently amended) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim [[6]] 1, wherein a depth of said at least one holder body channel with reference to a thickness of the holder body lies within a range of between 15% and 35% of said thickness.

Serial No.: 10/615,311

13. (Previously presented) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the first tooth flank is substantially parallel to at least one of an upper face or a lower face of the holder body.

-4-

- 14. (Original) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 13, wherein the first tooth flanks of adjacent teeth are parallel to one another.
- 15. (Previously presented) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 13, wherein the second tooth flanks and the third tooth flanks are arranged at an angle to an upper face and a lower face of the holder body.
- 16. (Original) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the tooth tips of adjacent teeth are displaced relative to one another with reference to a direction of width of the holder body.
- 17. (Original) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the holder body extends substantially equidistantly between a first surface and a second surface.
- 18. (Previously presented) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 17, wherein, at least in the vicinity of the tooth tip, the first tooth flank protrudes beyond one of the associated first surface or the associated second surface taken with reference to a direction of width of the holder body.
- 19. (Previously presented) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 18, wherein the first tooth flank is displaced substantially parallel relative to one of the first surface or the second surface.

Serial No.: 10/615,311

-5-

20. (Previously presented) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 18, wherein a thickness in the area of the row of teeth between the first tooth flanks of adjacent teeth is between 4% and 12% more than a spacing between the first surface and the second surface.

21. (Cancelled).

- 22. (Original) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a receiving portion for fixing the saw blade in an oscillating saw is formed in an end area of the holder body that is remote from the row of teeth.
- 23. (Previously presented) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the holder body comprises a resilient portion and a stiff portion, whereby a flexural rigidity of the resilient portion is lower than that of the stiff portion which supports the row of teeth.
- 24. (Previously presented) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 23, wherein a plurality of channel-like recesses are arranged at least in one of an upper face or a lower face of the holder body.
- 25. (Previously presented) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the recesses are formed symmetrically with reference to an axis of symmetry extending between opposed sides of the holder body.
- 26. (Previously presented) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the stiff portion and the resilient portion are produced by means of an arrangement and construction of the recesses.
- 27. (Original) A surgical saw blade in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a thickness in the row of teeth is greater than the thickness outside the row of teeth on the holder body.